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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/031,326 02/26/98 KARNIEWICZ

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EXAMINER

PHAN, T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2763

DATE MAILED:

05/01/00

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

## Office Action Summary

Application No.  
**09/031,326**

Applicant(s)  
**Joseph J. Karnlewicz**

Examiner  
**Thai Phan**

Group Art Unit  
**2763**



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Feb. 15, 2000

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1035 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

### Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

### Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

### Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

### **DETAILED ACTION**

This official action is in response to applicant's amendment filed on Feb. 15, 2000. Claims 1-25 are pending in this official action.

1. It is noted that this application appears to claim subject matter disclosed in prior copending Application without including a complete patent application reference number. Also, the current status of all nonprovisional parent applications referenced should be included.

### ***Drawings***

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show labels of functional blocks as described in the specification such as in Figs. 1, 3, 4. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). Correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated Van Huben et al., patent no. 6,035,297.

As per claim 1, Van Huben disclosed method and system for design of integrated circuit, circuit verification using a database structure for storing and accessing data (Abstract, cols. 2-7, Fig. 1) identical to the claimed invention. According to Van Huben, the design system includes a global file of global variables (col. 5, line 50 to col. 6, line 35), a plurality of local files relating to local variables to the global variables (Figs. 10-13, 16-20, col. 6, line 40 to col. 7, line 62, col. 12, lines 42-53, cols. 30-32, for instance), and local files in the templates containing a plurality of cells (cols. 30-32, col. 34, line 35 to col. 35, line 38, col. 38-43, for example).

As per claims 2, 3, 10, and 11 diagnostic files of global files or local files contain inherit files and instance files (cols. 30-43) to fill in or change parameters in each file.

As per claim 4, Van Huben disclosed files such as diagnostic files, netlist files, state files, etc. as in Figs. 10-13, 16-20, 24, 27-30, cols. 30-43, for example) would also include master file see cols. 46-48, for example, to keep design parameters in these files as known for those skilled in the art.

As per claim 5, Van Huben disclosed various templates or platforms being used for the design verification. This also included clean sheet files in each design templates as well disclosed. Van Huben also disclosed generating a new design file, including global variables, design parameters for each design, for example.

As per claims 6, 8, 9 and 12, Van Huben disclosed updating or modifying design file for circuit design verification (cols. 6-7, 30-43, for instance) which are known for those skilled in the art. The update process is carried out in local files, fields, global files, design rule files as necessarily required by the verification process (cols. 30-45, for example).

As per claims 7 and 13, Van Huben disclosed change of parameter values. This would require means for entering new values for parameters, variables, etc., and means for displaying of parameter value change.

As per claim 14, Van Huben anticipated computerized system for implementing design verification. Van Huben also disclosed the design process and verification could be implemented in computer programming languages such as C, Java, etc., this would include computer programming language such as SKILL as claimed. SKILL programming language in conjunction with Design Framework II as claimed is known in the art, and being used by applicant in the design process. It would inherently be for practitioner in the art to use such available tools to implement the circuit design process or other design processes as taught by Van Huben to provide an efficient method to implement the verification process.

As per claims 15-21, claim 15-21 are directed to a computer system for implementing the circuit design, system design, verification processes as claimed in claims 1-14, using a data structure to verify design files as taught by Van Huben; therefore, claims 15-21 are also rejected in like manner.

As per claims 16-25, due to the similarities of claims 16-25, and in addition to design rules and ground rules the limitations of claims 1-14, Van Huben also disclosed design rules files in templates of various platforms for forming a set of global variables and setting/updating values for such variables for the design process and verification by request by users as claimed, thus, claims 16-25 are also rejected in like manner.

***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thai Phan whose telephone number is (703) 305-3812.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

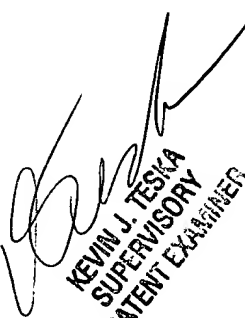
(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

**Or:**

(703) 308-1396 (for informal or draft communications, please label  
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,  
Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

April 26, 2000

  
KEVIN J. TESKA  
SUPERVISORY  
PATENT EXAMINER